

St JUDE

APOSTLE OF THOSE IN NEED

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DIVINE WORD PUBLICATIONS





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SAINT JUDE

Apostle of Those in Need

by

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Divine Word Missionary

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FOREWORD

Today, more than ever before, has the name of St. Jude Thaddeus been brought to the attention of our Catholic people, particularly because of the numerous miracles and favors that have been received through his powerful intercession. As a result, he is popularly called "the Patron of Difficult Cases."

The purpose of this booklet is to spread devotion to this great apostle of Jesus Christ and glorious martyr of the Catholic Church and to present the faithful with new prayers in his honor.

May this amiable saint help you in your needs and lead you to an ever greater love for Jesus and Mary, with whom he was associated by ties not only of kinship but also of supernatural love and heroic devotedness.

I dedicate these pages to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of Apostles, that they may be instrumental in drawing more souls closer to the loving heart of her divine Son through the intercession of the glorious apostle St. Jude Thaddeus.

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Part I.
SAINT JUDE THADDEUS

The Biography of St. Jude

St. Jude Thaddeus was closely associated with our Lord by blood relationship through Saints Joachim and Ann, the parents of the Blessed Virgin. A grand-nephew of these two saints, he is at once a nephew of Mary and Joseph, which, of course, places him in the relationship of cousin of our Lord.

Jude is the brother of apostle James the Less. He had two other brothers, whom the Gospel calls "brethren" of Jesus. When our Lord came back from Judea to Nazareth, He began to teach in the synagogue. The people who heard Him were astonished and said, "Where did He get the wisdom and these miracles? Is not His mother called Mary, and His brethren James and Joseph and Simon and Jude?" (Matt. 13, 54). The word "brethren" in the Hebrew language usually suggests a near relationship. St. Jude's father was Cleophas. It is said that Cleophas was murdered by the Jews and died a martyr's death because he professed his faith in the resurrection of Christ. His mother's name was Mary. She was a near relative of the Blessed Virgin. She stood beneath the cross when Jesus died. "Now there were standing by the cross of Jesus His mother and His mother's sister, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene" (John 19. 25). And again we read: "And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome, brought spices, that they might go and anoint Him"

(Mark 16, 1). When Mary Cleophas died, her remains were glorified by great miracles.

In his boyhood and youth Jude must have associated with Jesus. At the beginning of the public life of Jesus, Jude left all to follow the Master. As an apostle, he labored with great zeal for the conversion of the Gentiles.

St. Jude is sometimes pictured wearing a miniature image of our Lord on his breast. Tradition has it that the King of Edessa was afflicted with leprosy and sent messengers begging Jesus to come and cure him. Later the King sent an artist to Jerusalem in order to paint the Lord's portrait. Overcome by the sacred majesty of the Savior's face, the artist was unable to print the portrait. Then Jesus held a cloth to His face, impressed the image of it upon the cloth, and gave it to the artist, assuring him that He would send someone to cure the King. The story is that Jude was sent to cure the King after the Ascension of Jesus, for he traveled to Edessa. Appearing before the King he said: "You had faith in the Lord Jesus, therefore, He sent me."

Jude then placed his hands on the King and instantly cured him. Others were also healed. The King and very many of his subjects were converted and believed in Jesus Christ.

For ten years Jude worked zealously as a missionary in the whole of Mesopotamia. He returned to Jerusalem for the Council of the Apostles. Later he joined St. Simon in Libya, where the two apostles preached the Gospel to the barbarian inhabitants.

There were two magicians in Persia who always opposed the two apostles and deceived the people. But God gave Jude a special

power. In his presence and at his command the idols of the pagans were forced to speak and to confess the one true God. Then the demons inhabiting the idols were ordered to leave and in so doing the images fell to the ground and were shattered. Later Jude foretold the victory of the Persian army. This won good will among the people and the two magicians were banished. Nevertheless, these people had pagan and immoral customs of long standing which made conversion difficult. Because of his successful work among these people, St. Jude is invoked by those who are tortured by temptations against purity.

Our Lord had foretold all sorts of persecution and suffering for His apostles. "Yes, the hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering worship to God But these things I have spoken to you, that when the time for them has come you may remember that I told you" (John 16, 3). All this came true in the case of St. Jude. The hatred of his enemies was aroused by the many conversions he wrought, and they sought his life. Tradition says that he and St. Simon suffered martyrdom at Suanis, a city of Persia, where they had labored as missionaries. St. Jude was beaten to death with a club; hence he is represented with a club in his hand. His head was then severed from his body with an ax. His body was brought to Rome and his relics are now venerated in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Pope Paul III, in a brief dated September 22, 1548, granted a plenary indulgence to all who visit his tomb on his feast day, which is celebrated on October 28.

The Epistle of St. Jude

Though the history of St. Jude after the Ascension is largely legendary, reliable information concerning his character can be gleaned from his Epistle. He is known mainly as the author of the Epistle of St. Jude, immediately preceding the Apocalypse of St. John' in the New Testament. This letter was probably written before the fall of Jerusalem, between the years 62 and 65. In his Epistle St. Jude denounces the heresies of that early time and warns the Christians against the seduction of false teaching. He speaks of the judgment to come upon the heretics who are living evil and condemns the worldly minded, the lustful, and those "who cultivated people for the sake of gain." He encourages Christians to remain steadfast in the faith and foretells that false teachers, leading wicked lives and ridiculing religion, would arise. He reminds Christians that these evil men would be punished by directing attention to the punishment of the unbelieving Israelites in the desert, and also that which was meted out to the wicked angels, the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah, and upon Cain, Balaam, and the sons of Core. To the pride of the wicked he opposed the humble loyalty of the Archangel Michael. He encourages the Christians to build a spiritual edifice by living lives founded upon faith, love of God, hope, and prayer. He encourages the practice of love of neighbor; he urges Christians to endeavor to convert the heretics by the virtues of their lives.

This instruction is very practical for our own times when false teaching and immorality are widespread. The Epistle deals with principles of Catholic Action, which should be

practiced toward those who are not of our faith. Catholics must be firm in their faith and earnest in their love for their neighbor. St. Jude concludes his Epistle with a prayer praising God for the boon of the Incarnation, by means of which the eternal Word of God, Jesus Christ, took upon Himself our human nature and redeemed mankind.

Patron of Difficult Cases

St. Jude bears the surname "Thaddeus," which distinguishes him from Judas Iscariot, the traitor. Perhaps the honor of St. Jude suffered because he bore the same name as the one who betrayed the Savior. Apparently Jesus wishes to enhance the honor of this apostle by granting great favors through his intercession; especially by frequently helping those who appeal to him in extreme distress. In a vision our Lord told St. Bridget of Sweden to turn to St. Jude with confidence, and assured her in these words: "In accordance with his surname 'Thaddeus' — the amiable, loving — he will show himself most willing to give help."

The experience of many thousands of people proves that St. Jude is rightly called the patron of most difficult and even hopeless cases. From earliest times he has been invoked for help when there was urgent need of it, and his intervention was often miraculous. He has obtained cures for those hopelessly ill: the grace of conversion for persons enslaved by deeply-rooted evil habits; consolation for the bitterly disappointed and discouraged; and strength for those tormented by unchaste thoughts and impure habits.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux had a special

veneration for St. Jude and honored his relic throughout his life. He asked that in death the relic of St. Jude be placed over his heart and buried with him. This was St. Bernard's way of showing gratitude to St. Jude for having been his powerful protector in temptations against the virtue of purity and a faithful helper in every need.

Your prayers to St. Jude should have three characteristics: *confidence*, *perseverance* and *resignation*. Your confidence and perseverance should be based on the promise of the Savior, "Ask, and it shall be given to you: seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; and he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks it shall be opened."

Resignation should be in accordance with the spirit of our Lord's prayer: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." God always hears our prayers, even though He does not always answer them according to our will, since He knows better than we what our real needs are. Sometimes He answers them by saying: "No," to our request. We can do nothing better in life than to fulfill the will of God.

Do not estimate the value of prayer by length or number. It would be wrong to think that you must make known your wants to God, as though He did not know them; or to suppose that you must or can influence Him by your petitions, as men are influenced by reasoning. You do not influence God's attitude in any way by your arguments, but you can do so by correcting your sinful ways, thus removing the obstacles which prevent God from granting your petitions. This is

what you do by prayer, which is a convincing sign of your dependence on God and of your childlike confidence in His power, goodness, and mercy.

There is no such thing as a prayer inspired by faith, humility, confidence, perseverance, and resignation remaining unanswered. *God wants to help you*, because He is all-good; *He knows how to help you*, because He is all-wise; *He can help you*, because He is all-powerful.

Turn to St. Jude with great confidence. He will help you as he has helped thousands of others. Remember the doctrine of the Church on the "communion of saints" which means that, through union with Christ, the faithful on earth are united with the blessed in heaven and the souls in purgatory. Through the communion of saints, the blessed in heaven can help the souls in purgatory and the faithful on earth by praying for them. The faithful on earth, through the communion of saints, should honor the blessed in heaven and pray to them, because they are worthy of honor and, as friends of God, will help the faithful on earth. St. Jude is a special friend of God. He is a relative of Jesus and Mary, an apostle chosen by Jesus Christ Himself, a martyr who gave his life for His Master. Surely God will be pleased if you honor one whom He has favored so highly. Through your prayers to St. Jude you will gain the help of his powerful intercession in any need, even if that should require a miracle, for this apostle has well merited the title of "Patron of hopeless cases."

Part II.
NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

First Day

APOSTLE OF THE MASTER

St. Jude, I venerate you as the apostle of the Master. Jesus cast upon you a glance that pierced your inmost soul and filled it with divine grace. He called you by saying, "Follow Me," and you promptly obeyed His call and left everything: your boats, nets, trade, house, and family to follow the Master. But you received in return the honor and joy of the friendship of Jesus and the glory of being an apostle. You were one of the Twelve, chosen by the Master to preach God's truth and a religion of disciplined living to a world that was given over to degrading sins of the flesh. As a helper in Christ's great work, you shared in the conversion and spiritual conquest of the world. I congratulate you on this great honor.

St. Jude, I have the great privilege of being a Catholic, a member of the only religious body in the world which really believes and teaches with authority that Jesus is God, and all that follows from that fact. What a blessing and what a responsibility is mine! Like you, I wish to show myself truly grateful for the many graces God has granted me, by the prompt and cheerful fulfillment of the duties of my state of life. Pray for me that *I may live according to the teachings of Jesus Christ and that I may allow Christ's high ideals to dominate my daily life.* This is what you encouraged the early Christians to do in your Epistle. "Beloved, be mindful of the words

that have been spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ . . . exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints." Grant that, trusting in God's providence, I may be ready to sacrifice to God all that is dearest to me, so that I may become a perfect Christian. Give me the zeal of an apostle to spend myself for the love of Jesus, my Master, and for the salvation of souls. Amen.

St. Jude, apostle of the Master, pray for me and make me an apostle of my faith.

Second Day

LOVER OF THE SON OF GOD

St. Jude, I venerate you as a lover of the Son of God, because you dedicated yourself to Jesus Christ with all the love of your heart. You were present with the apostles when Jesus appealed for their love, the night before He died saying: "Abide in Me, and I in you . . . I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

You offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass each day and received the body and blood of Jesus in Holy Communion. Through the sacrament of the altar and through your frequent prayer you were united with Jesus in sincerest love. This union made your work for souls most fruitful. Abiding in Jesus by love was the secret of all your holiness and made you the great saint that you are.

St. Jude, teach me to imitate you especially in this, the greatest of your virtues — the love of the Son of God. I believe that Jesus the eternal Word of God made man, possesses

divine life in all its fullness and generously gives that life to me through the sacraments and through prayer.

Pray for me that I may be able to receive the divine life of Jesus in rich measure. In imitation of you, I want to give Jesus a love so deep and strong that it may not rest until, in a sense, I have become one with Him, as the vine is one with the branches. In your Epistle you encouraged the first Christians in this love: "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ into life everlasting."

Through frequent Holy Communion and prayer may I receive an increase of sanctifying grace, the very life of God in my soul, and share in the divine life of Jesus, for He said, "He who eats My flesh, and drinks My blood, abides in Me and I in him." May I also receive the actual graces I need to help me to think and desire, speak and act like Jesus. May the spirit of Jesus rule me as completely as it ruled you, so that union with Jesus may be the aim and the ideal of my life. Amen.

St. Jude, lover of the Son of God, pray for me that I may share in your love for Jesus Christ.

Third Day

PRIEST OF JESUS CHRIST

St. Jude, I venerate you as a priest of Jesus Christ, for you received from Jesus the three great powers of the priesthood: to offer Holy Mass, to forgive sins, and teach.

You were present when Jesus gave *the power of consecration* to the apostles saying: "Take and eat, this is my body . . . This is

My blood . . . Do this in remembrance of me," giving them the power and the command to do at Holy Mass what He Himself had done at the Last Supper: to change bread and wine into His body and blood and to renew in an unbloody manner His sacrifice of Calvary. Help me to appreciate Holy Mass and Holy Communion, frequently and devoutly of the body and blood of Jesus as the daily food of my soul, just as you did as a priest in fulfillment of our Lord's last will. May this sacrament help me to overcome sin, to practice virtue, and to become more like Jesus.

You were also present on the first Easter Sunday night, when Jesus appeared to the apostles, breathed upon them, and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." As an apostle, you were given *the power of forgiving sins* and the authority to judge. Help me to appreciate the sacrament of Penance and to make use of it with confidence, joy, and zeal. Through frequent confession may Jesus give me a more vigorous spiritual life, a firmer confidence in God, coupled with peace of conscience, and the strength to resist temptation, to perform good works, and thus attain everlasting joy.

St. Jude, you were present at the Ascension of Jesus when He gave His missionary command: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations. . . . teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Fill my heart with gratitude for the benefits of my Catholic faith. Help me to preach my faith especially

by the holiness of my life and my good example. Amen.

St. Jude, priest of Jesus Christ, pray for all the priests of the Catholic Church.

Fourth Day

HERALD OF THE DIVINE SPIRIT

St. Jude, my loving patron, I venerate you as the herald of the Divine Spirit. As the final hour of the earthly life of Jesus drew near, He instructed you and the other apostles that, after receiving the Holy Spirit, you should be witnesses before men to the divinity of His Person and to the truth of His Gospel. Jesus chose you for this mission because, having been with Him from the beginning, you saw with your own eyes the wondrous deeds He performed and heard with your own ears the inspired words which fell from His divine lips. The Holy Spirit made you worthy of his holy mission, for on Pentecost you were present when He descended upon you and the other apostles in the form of fiery tongues, and were filled with the Holy Spirit.

I, too, am a disciple of Jesus and, therefore also a witness to His divinity and to the infallible truth of His Gospel. St. Jude, beg Jesus to send me from the fulness of His Sacred Heart the grace of His Holy Spirit, in order to enlighten my ignorance, purify and sanctify my sinful heart, confirming me in His holy love and love of my neighbor. Only through the grace of the Holy Spirit can my Catholic Faith become a power for good in my daily life. **This** thought you expressed in your Epistle: "Beloved, build

up yourself upon your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit."

Pray that the Holy Spirit may transform me into a living image of Jesus, as He transformed you and the other apostles on the day of Pentecost. May the Divine Spirit, be my Teacher, to instruct me in the truths that Jesus taught: may He be my Light to show me the way to heaven; my Comforter, to strengthen and encourage me in my weakness. Through your intercession may the Spirit of truth and love, who can never guide men astray, nor fail to comfort those who trust in Him, take full possession of my soul that I, too, may be a worthy witness of Jesus Christ by the holiness of my life.

Through the grace of the Divine Spirit, whom you loved so earnestly, may I save my soul. Amen.

St. Jude, herald of the Divine Spirit, pray that I may always be guided by His light, as you were, through life.

Fifth Day

TEACHER OF FAITH

St. Jude, I venerate you as a teacher of faith. You teach me to live by faith, through the example of your life. Enlightened by grace, you recognized and professed that Jesus, who was present before you in true human form, was the God of heaven and earth, the Messiah, the Son of the living God. You believe that Jesus was one in nature with the Father, and that, as Redeemer, He filled the office of King, Priest, and Prophet. You firmly believed in the teaching of Jesus Christ who said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and

the life." Proclaiming the truth of His Gospel you labored, suffered, and died.

Through your preaching and writing you exhorted the Christians to be true to their holy faith, since it is their most precious possession on earth. In your Epistle you wrote: "Beloved, build up yourselves upon your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit."

St. Jude, pray to the Holy Spirit that He may increase in my soul *the virtue of faith*, I offer the submission of my intellect and will as a sacrifice which God requires of me, and as a pledge of my veneration for His infallible word, as taught by the Catholic Church. I believe that this Church is the only one founded by Jesus and endowed by Him with the marks of ONENESS, HOLINESS, UNIVERSALITY, and APOSTOLICITY. Help me to thank God from the bottom of my heart for the greatest of all graces which I have from Him, without any merit of my own, namely, that of having the true faith.

Through your prayers, obtain for me deep faith such as you had. And, since only humble souls can receive and hold this grace, help me to practice the virtue of humility, lest I lose my faith through pride. Pray that my faith may be like a rock, immovable and unshaken, never letting me swerve from divine revelation, from submission to the commandments of God. Obtain for me a faith that will help me to persevere in the service of God to the end of my life — faith that will save my soul. Amen.

St. Jude, teacher of faith, pray for me and increase in my soul the virtue of faith.

MARTYR FOR JESUS

St. Jude, I venerate you as a martyr for Jesus. The night before Jesus died, He warned you and the other apostles that your great calling would not exempt you from suffering and trials. But He assured you that His own abiding love would strengthen you, and that the grace of the Holy Spirit would inspire you, enabling you to rejoice even when compelled to suffer for His name. The Christian faith became a dominating power in your life. To you there was only one thing in life which really mattered, to bear witness to Jesus. You and the other apostles sealed this testimony with your blood.

St. Jude, give me the Christian *virtue of patience* that I may endure with peace of soul, for the love of God, and in union with Jesus, all the suffering of my life, whether of soul or of body. Never let me indulge in self-pity, or in bitterness of heart, when God, in His infinite mercy, permits me to be afflicted, even in a grievous way. Teach me by your own example to submit humbly to the will of God, in the hope of the eternal reward which Jesus promised His apostles, that will crown my patience. If you, a great saint, bore heroically so many tortures of body and soul, and even the martyrdom of being beaten to death, in order to prove your love for Jesus and to spread the holy faith, it is only right that I, who by my sins am the cause of the sufferings of Jesus, should consent to suffer for the love of Jesus and to co-operate with Him in the work of saving souls. Beg the Holy Spirit to give me the grace to bear my daily cross for the love of

Jesus, even to the end of my journey in this unbelieving world.

Jesus once said in your presence, "Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." I firmly believe that my sorrow will be turned into joy and that my faithful service will be crowned with a heaven of eternal bliss, where I can share with you in the reward of a martyrdom for Christ. Amen.

St. Jude, martyr for Jesus, pray for, me that I may gladly suffer for the love of Jesus.

Seventh Day

PATRON OF PURITY

St. Jude, I venerate you as a patron of purity. In your lifetime you proclaimed the commandments of God and warned the first Christians against those whom you called in your Epistle, "sensual men, not having the Spirit." Help me to be mindful of the many dangers that surround me in the world, lest I make myself deserving of the punishments that you foretold were to come upon those who disregard God's commandments, especially that of purity.

God has given me a body to use as a fitting instrument in His service, and in working out my eternal salvation. Teach me to respect my body and the bodies of my fellow creatures. Teach me to love the ideals for which our Savior lived and died, so that all my passions and energies may be converted into effective sources of energy to be consumed in His service. May my body be the servant of my soul, and may both body and soul be God's servants.

Obtain for me through your intercession

a deep sense of modesty, constantly reflected in my external conduct. Protect my eyes, the windows of my soul, from anything that might dim the brightness of a heart that must mirror only Christ-like purity. Assist me, that, through frequent Holy Communion, Jesus may seal my heart forever against the suggestions of sinful pleasures. May the Holy Spirit inflame my heart and my inmost being with the fire of His love so that I may serve God with a chaste body and a pure mind and thus merit to be among the number of those of whom Jesus spoke, "Blessed are the pure of heart for they shall see God." St. Jude, may the closing words of prayer in your Epistle be answered in my regard: "Now to Him who is able to preserve you without sin and to set you before the presence of His glory, without blemish, in gladness, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, belong glory and majesty, dominion and authority, before all times, and now, and forever. Amen."

St. Jude, patron of purity, pray for me that I may be able to keep my body pure and my soul holy.

Eighth Day

DEFENDER OF THE CHURCH

St. Jude, I venerate you as the defender of the Church. I admire the zeal with which, in your day, you defended the Church founded by our divine Savior. You preached its truths to the pagans and sinners, protected its rights before its enemies, denounced heretics and protested against evil practices. You suffered at the hands of your enemies and even laid down your life in defense of

the faith. The Church today is in need of your help.

In your heavenly glory, *pray for the Holy Catholic Church*, which the Eternal Father chose as His property, for which our Lord Jesus Christ shed His blood, and which the Holy Spirit animates and sanctifies.

Through your prayers, continue to spread that Church over the whole earth, according to the command you heard from the lips of the Master, that it may extend from sea to sea and bring the truths of salvation to all nations. Pray that the Church may be exalted and glorified with splendor of holiness so that, as the city upon the mountain, she may shine forth before the whole world in purity and splendor.

Protect and bless the Holy Father, all bishops, and priests. Fill them with wisdom, strength, and virtue that they may live worthy of their sublime vocation and guide their flocks to eternal salvation. Beg the Holy Spirit to visit all the faithful with His sanctifying grace so that, by leading a pure and holy life, they may persevere in God's love. Guard them against the spirit of materialism and immorality, which fills the earth today, and against which you warned the first Christians in your Epistle: "Beloved, be mindful of the words that have been spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, who kept saying to you that at the end of time there will come scoffers, walking impiously according to their lust."

Protect God's Holy Church against all attacks of the enemy; destroy their power in order that, in peace and security, we may work out our salvation and spread our holy

faith. Through your intercession may those who have gone astray put aside all heresy and return to the unity of God's truth so that there may be one fold and one Shepherd. Amen.

St. Jude, defender of the faith, pray for the Catholic Church.

Ninth Day

HELPER OF DIFFICULT CASES

St. Jude, I venerate you as a helper in difficult cases. In your Epistle you exhorted the early Christians to erect a true spiritual edifice by leading lives, founded upon faith, love of God, ardent hope, and prayer. "Beloved, build up yourselves upon your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit."

Teach me how to pray, assisted by the Holy Spirit, as Jesus taught you to pray with *confidence and perseverance*; remembering that God is my Friend and Father, to whom I may speak with childlike trust, because He loves me. You were present when the Master made His infallible promise regarding the efficacy of prayer: "I say to you, ask and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; and he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks it shall be opened."

Help me also to *pray with resignation*, knowing that God always hears my prayers, even though He does not always answer them according to my will, since He knows better than I what my real needs are. I want to pray with utmost sincerity the prayer which Jesus taught: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

St. Jude, you are the helper and consoler of all who are sorely tired. Hence, I shall seek your assistance with confidence, perseverance, and resignation because I wish to avail myself of your merits and powerful intercession. You are known as the patron and special advocate of clients in dire need or distress. Thousands have implored your aid and have received extraordinary and even miraculous help in cases which looked hopeless and in trials of a serious nature. I, too, beg for your help. Be my friend and helper in the hour of bitter need, and also at the hour of my death. After having been your devoted client in life, may I merit through your prayers, to reach heaven and enjoy with you the eternal presence of God. Amen.

St. Jude, helper in difficult cases, pray for me and help me now and at the hour of my death.

Indulgenced Novena Prayer

Glorious St. Jude Thaddeus, by those sublime privileges with which you were adorned in your lifetime, namely, your relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh and your vocation to be an apostle, and by the glory which now is yours in heaven as the reward of your apostolic labors and your martyrdom, obtain for me from the Giver of every good and perfect gift all the graces of which I stand in need: (*Mention your request*).

May I treasure up in my heart the divinely inspired doctrines which you have given us in your Epistle: to build my edifice of holiness upon our most holy faith, by praying for the grace of the Holy Spirit; to keep my-

self in the love of God, looking for the mercy of Jesus Christ unto eternal life; to strive by all means to help those who go astray. May I thus praise the glory and majesty, the dominion and power of Him who is able to keep me without sin and to present me spotless with great joy at the coming of our divine Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. 300 days. (488) *

Consecration

St. Jude, apostle of Christ and glorious martyr, I desire to honor you with a special devotion. To you I entrust my soul and my body, all my spiritual and temporal interests. To you I consecrate my mind so that in all things it may be enlightened by faith; my heart so that you may keep it pure and fill it with love for Jesus and Mary; my will so that like yours, it may always be one with the will of God.

I beg you to help me to master my evil inclinations and temptations and to avoid all occasions of sin. Obtain for me the grace of never offending God, of fulfilling faithfully all the duties of my state of life, and of practicing all those virtues which are needful for my salvation.

Pray for me, my holy patron and helper, so that, being inspired by your example and assisted by your prayers, I may live a holy life, die a happy death and attain to the glory of heaven, there to love and thank God forever. Amen.

For a Cure

Glorious St. Jude, since you were sent by Jesus to Edessa to cure a king of leprosy, and in your apostolic journeys, your healing

hand was laid upon the sick and the lame, the blind and the crippled. Look now with compassion upon me in my suffering. By that marvelous power which Jesus bestowed upon you, continue now in heaven the work Jesus sent you on earth to do: to spread the faith, to heal the sick, and to help the needy. If it is not God's will that I be cured, then obtain for me the strength to bear my burden and offer it up to Jesus in union with His sacrifice on the altar. But if, in His designs, I am to be restored to health and strength, I shall endeavor to show my gratitude by rendering a constant and faithful service to God.

St. Jude, help me to suffer in the spirit in which you bore the heavy crosses of your life, especially your martyrdom. Obtain for me the grace to offer my sufferings cheerfully and generously, in reparation for my sins and those of others, for the needs of this troubled world and for the release of the souls in purgatory. Amen.

May the most just, the most high and the most lovable will of God be in all things done, praised, and evermore exalted! 500 days.
(4) *

NOTE:

Medals of St. Jude, Novena holy cards, can be purchased from Marian Action Publications, 211 W. 7th Avenue, Tarentum, Pa.

Imprimi Potest.

Raymond J. Weisenberger, S.V.D., Provincial, Girard, Pa.

Nihil Obstat.

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